

*Address to American Society of  
Newspaper Editors*

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Good morning. Yesterday I looked over the agenda of speakers you have for today. I decided that if I were going to come out anything besides a sure loser, I would have to do two things. The first was to cut down the length of my remarks. The second was to concentrate on an area of keen and immediate common interest.

I had intended to discuss with you the impact that changes in American technology are having upon our intelligence activities today, as they are on the world of the media also. I had also intended to talk about the vastly expanding scope of countries and topics upon which we must be able to report, as with you also. I will, rather, concentrate on one other element of change that is impacting upon our intelligence activities, and that is the change in the environment in which we must work. You are understandably and quite properly an important part of that changing environment.

If we look ~~to the past, American intelligence activities were~~ back more than five or six years, American intelligence activities were largely isolated and secretive, like those of other nations. Then there was the Church Committee, the Pike Committee, the Rockefeller Commission, new oversight procedures in the Congress and the White House and in the Intelligence Oversight Board. The net result was that we have been and continue to be on your front pages regularly. The impact of living in a fishbowl rather than under a rock has been substantial, even traumatic.

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It has impacted us in four particular dimensions. First, it has changed our internal operations and organization. Secondly, it has changed how we work with the rest of the Executive Branch. Thirdly, it has altered our relationships with the Legislative Branch; and finally, it has thrown us into much greater contact with you, the media, and through you, with the American public.